



Dedicated to Freedom of the Road.

A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.

P. O. Box 4504 Portland, Oregon 97208

**State Board of Directors Meeting
January 14, 2012
Albany, Oregon**

Call to Order / Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by Allan Nichols, Coordinator, at 12:07 pm with 12 of 12 chapters represented. All Chapters present eligible to vote.

Not Present:

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence: For Downed Brothers/Sisters and Service Men/Women. Special request for Randy Phipps, currently at OHSU in the Cardiac Care Unit.

Guests and First Time Attendees: Bob Wiro, Salem; Dave Bridges, Coordinator LoCo; “Wyoming”, SE Portland; Larry Suther & nephew Dakota Hoover, JaCo; Paul Hering, WaCo

Reading / Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by One-Eyed Bob, Douglas Co., to adopt minutes as printed in the State Newspaper; Seconded by Paul, WaCo. Motion passed.

(X) Coordinator’s Comments: Allan Nichols – Opened by stating that this is going to be a fun ride this year. Also stated that this year the rules will be followed. All Chapter Officers should get to know who their State Officer is. There are 3 things that Allan wants everyone to strive for this year. 1) Respect – one for another; 2) Open mind – to things and ideas not your own; 3) Passion about what we do. Allan then asked “Let’s all work together and get busy”. *(One-Eyed Bob was asked to fill in as the Sgt-at-Arms for this meeting, he agreed)*

Brian Stovall added that Chapter Representatives are elected positions and have the most important jobs. They are the voting Board of Directors and it does everyone a disservice to constantly have

different people every month from the same Chapter. It takes time to become an effective Chapter Representative. It hurts us when a new one is constantly put in place because no one wants the responsibility. A new person does not usually know what to do and has to be taught while at the meeting, taking time and attention away from the matters at hand.

Allan added that the Chapter Representative holds the position of Board of Directors Representative and speaks for the entire Chapter they are representing. This is an elected and mandated position within every Chapter.

(X) Secretary Report & Correspondence: Nic Oliver – There are newspapers from MROs around the nation available if anyone is interested. We also received a letter from the Rolling Thunder group asking for support by purchasing run pins, patches and other items. Since this is something we cannot do as an organization, it is available to anyone that is interested.

******* Officer's Reports*******

(X) Vice-Coord North: Al Simms – Al stated that Thursday is Hub City's meeting and everyone is invited. He also asked that everyone, please, educate yourself about ABATE's roots. We need to stay who we are and not pervert it. We need to commit to the roots and work towards focusing our efforts according to those roots.

(X) Vice-Coord South: Pat "Spanky" Allen – Reported that his #1 focus is going to be memberships. We need to push that we are not a "Harley only" group. He is currently trying to get Southern Oregon riders to come to Black Wednesday. We need to show support for the work at the Capitol. He also asked about the possibility of getting color business cards. They may generate more interest.

(X) Vice-Coord East: Robert Terrill – Stated that we should get with the off-road rider groups. They can help us and we can help them. Discussion included the information that we have worked with the Off-Road Riders in the past and will continue to do so.

(X) Treasurer: Kay Sipple – Report turned in. Kay also reported that as of January 11th, our balances are: checking - \$4,478.58, savings - \$20,005.00, Paypal - \$300.15. Also reported that Fossil tickets can be purchased on Paypal.

(X) Membership Secretary: Linda Henderson – We currently have 1538 members, up from last month. If more information is needed or tri-fold information, call the #800 (1-877-552-2283). Reported that we are going to have a membership contest with rewards. There will be more information at STEAM. If anyone needs supplies or packets, call or email and she will bring them to the next State Board meeting. Also reported that Groups can join under a Family membership.

(X) Sanctioning Officer: Matt Price – Reported that everything, except what he received today is current. Also reported that any submissions that come in just before the end of the current year but before the New Year takes place, it is held and not sanctioned until after the first of the new year and the new policy is written. The number of riders/attendees at our events is what determines the cost. There needs to be, as accurate as possible, counts taken at events. He also reported that he noted an inequity in the amounts paid for events. There is one sanctioning fee for all events, no matter the size. This needs to be equalized so that the larger events pay their fair share of the cost.

A committee is being formed to look into this matter and anyone wanting to be part of the committee should contact Matt Price.

State Auditor: Connie Ceccacci – Reported that the “blue” on the report handed in means that she has the file but is unable to open it due to computer problems. This will be resolved by next month. Also stated that all Chapter Treasurers need to attend STEAM.

Newspaper Editor: Rot Path – Thanked everyone for attending. Reminded everyone, especially the new people, that all Chapter reports are due by the 10th of the month. He reported having problems opening some reports due to programming conflicts and suggested that all reports be sent as a text-only file. This can be done, then copied and pasted into an email to him for purpose of reporting.

Legislative Director: Don Mason – Reported on attending the BOLT (Bikers of Lesser Tolerance) Conference in Nevada. Keynote speaker was Douglas Findley of Ride2Repeal.com and was attended by many other States from around the country. It was good to attend and get ideas on what worked and what didn't. For example, Washington State now has an Anti-Profiling law thanks to the CoC opening some doors, ABATE opening other doors and everyone working together, they overcame the obstacles and got the bill passed.

There was discussion on the election process plans. How we can be effective. We need to be more focused on completing our task. Everyone needs to find out who their Legislators are, Senator and Representative, and contact them to meet on February 1st, if possible. They listen to their constituents before anyone else. If you visit on Black Monday or some other day, if you want a BikePAC member to go with you, just let them know. There was a suggestion that a patch or pin be given to people that visit their Legislator and there are Freedom Fighter patches available at a nominal cost. Milkman Mike is the head of COIR/US Defenders and it is important that the CoC and ABATE work together. Cohesion makes a difference.

The ABATE of Oregon Facebook issue was discussed. One-Eyed Bob stated that he can't find out for sure who has the password for access to that site. He is still trying but could use some help. Send events to the abateoforegon.net to get your event on the website.

Don will be presenting the legislative plan at the STEAM conference in February. He also stated that he will be visiting the other Chapters after the STEAM conference.

Idaho ABATE stated that since they are closer and understanding what we want to do, volunteered to come over to help us reach people at the Hells Canyon Run. It is the fastest growing run in Eastern Oregon and we need to get the word out over there.

Nevada lawsuits were discussed. Attacking helmet laws, definitions of helmets, definition of LEO's actions on what they can do.

Legislative issues are always in the top of the MRF Best of the West agenda. This year the Best of the West is in June.

Sergeant-At-Arms North: Randy Phipps – Excused. Medical (in the hospital)

Sergeant-At-Arms South: VACANT

Sergeant-At-Arms East: VACANT

Products Director: Dave Meeker – Need artwork for the 35th Annual Fossil Run T-shirts. Reported the need to restock pins and rockers. Indian Creek is the only Chapter rocker that he stocks.

Education Director: Geoff White – Handed out the STEAM agenda. It is February 25th, at Chemeketa Community College on Lancaster North in Salem. It will start at 9 am promptly with guest speaker, Bob Hudson of North Coast Chapter. We can start gathering and registering at 8 am. STEAM is scheduled to end at 1530 hrs or 3:30 pm.

Public Relations Director: Robert “One-eyed Bob” Nichols – Reported that he is open to everyone for history stuff for ABATE. Going to continue to work on trying to gain access to Facebook but can't get the password. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Fossil Coordinator: Howie Long – Reported that things are progressing well. Tickets will be ready soon. Chapter Representatives take back to your Chapter that help is needed at Fossil for Security, set-up, tear-down, manning the booth, etc. Also needed is door prizes.

Gene reported that there will be 8 spots available for RVs. If there are more than 8 people ask for the spots, there will be a raffle. Contact Gene at 541-993-3725. Gene stated that he is working on the stage.

Fall/Spring Swap Meet Coordinator: John “Wheel” Betts – Excused. Nic reported a phone call from Wheels stated that he is going to have a committee meeting at 11am at the next meeting.

Historian: Jennifer Brackman – Reported that she is still going through previous years. Would like items/photos from all events.

WEB Page Editor: Trace Ceccacci – Excused.

Quartermaster: Dwayne Sterba – Reported that he is setting up a check out system for the trailers.

Bike PAC Representative: Nic Oliver – Reported that they are working on a way to track economic impact at events with “Impact Bucks”. These will look something like money but have information on them as to money spent at event. These Impact Bucks will be left with the retailer visited to be picked up later by a representative.

Also reported that Black Wednesday is February 1st and things are ready. The fountain area is ready for parking and Rm 50 is reserved. Dave Hickerson reported that the Road Brothers are putting on a bar-b-que afterwards and everyone is invited. Very good food at a great price and the good time with the Road Brothers is free. Everyone is needed at Black Wednesday.

MRF Representative: Allan Nichols – Reported that due to it getting late in the day, his report is join or renew your membership now. This is an important year.

CoC Representative North: David Hickerson – Reported that the group ride to the Capitol from the K-Mart parking lot at 25th and Mission (the Detroit Lake exit off of I-5) will leave at 11am for the Capitol. Spoke briefly on Kevin Starret and Oregon’s gun rights. Also spoke on Tim Freeman’s ethanol bill. Dave also spoke on approaching sport bike riders and getting to know them, their action items and by doing this we can find common ground and may gain some members.

Unfinished Business:

Officer Openings: Sergeant-At-Arms South – One-Eyed Bob from Douglas County was nominated and accepted. Voting was unanimous. Congratulations to One-Eyed Bob!!!

Sergeant-At-Arms East – No nominations.

“Motion made by Nic Oliver, Hub City Chapter; seconded by Spanky, Josephine County: “Propose to add a Paypal “Donate” button on the State website and encourage all Chapters to use the same button on all their websites. All funds donated will be earmarked for legislative use only.” Discussion was short but included concerns about who can donate. Don Mason stated that anyone can donate and no matter where the money comes from, we can put it to good use. Voting was unanimous. Motion Passed.

New Business:

Discussion ensued regarding an issue with the February meeting. It was brought up that it was thought to be traditional for the meeting to take place at LoCo’s place in February. This turned out to be incorrect. It was asked that it be moved by the then State Representative each year for two years but that was all. Both times there was no attendance by the LoCo Chapter officers or members at the moved meeting. The August Beaver Creek Run was worked out between the Board of Directors and Lincoln County long ago due to a problem that arose back then. It has been traditional since that time. LoCo would have to submit another request to move but it was also discussed as to LoCo’s lack of attendance at the meetings in Clatskanie. The February meeting will be in Albany.

Douglas County would like State help with the SOS Run. It was suggested that all of the Southern Chapters come together on this Run. There was some discussion on this matter but no firm decision made.

Announcements:

Next State Board of Directors Meeting: February 11, 2012, at Ciddici's Pizza, Albany, Oregon.

Brian Stovall thanked Kay and Allan for attending River City Chapter’s Christmas Party.

Upcoming events:

- 1 Feb 2012 Black Wednesday. BikePAC has called a **CALL TO ACTION** for all possible motorcyclists to flood the Capital on the opening day Ceremonies for the new 2012 Legislative Session. Walk, Ride, bus Car, Truck, Tractor, whatever mode you have, just show up. Gathering will start at about 10am. There were 6,100 at the Toy Run; do your rights and freedoms mean as much?
- 11 Feb 2012 Biker Night, Riley's Billiards Bar & Grill at 124 Broadalbin in downtown Albany. Door prizes and a great time. Music by the Dammit Jim Band. \$3 per person/ \$5 per couple. Info at hubcityabate.com or call Cheri – 541-979-7332 or Al Sims 541-974-0933
- 25 Feb 2012 STEAM by ABATE of Oregon. Chemeketa Community College, located on North Lancaster in Salem, 8 am till 3:30 pm. For more info contact Geoff White, Education Director through abateoforegon.net.
- 31 Mar 2012 Biker Night at the Vine by WaCo. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 28 Apr 2012 Adopt-A-Road Clean-up. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 29 Apr. 2012 Spring Swap Meet/ABATE State. Portland Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Dr, Portland
- 25-28 May '12 35th Annual Fossil Run. More information call Howie (503) 791-2862. Vendor information contact Rick (541) 980-4230.
- 10 Jun 2012 Roll 'N Ride by WaCo. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 14-17 Jun '12 Party in the Woods by ABATE of Washington. General Info - lacoy@live.com.
- 21 July 2012 Mid-Summer Run by WaCo. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 24-26 Aug '12 End of Summer Run by WaCo. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 15 Sept 2012 Adopt-A-Road Clean-Up b Waco. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.
- 17 Nov 2012 Toy Run by WaCo. More info at www.facebook.com/WaCoChapter.

Adjourned at 3:20 pm (or 1520 for you military time keepers)